

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ORDER NO. 783

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served February 29, 1968

Proposed Increase in Interstate	)	Application No. 472
Rates for Taxicabs Domiciled in	)	
the District of Columbia.	)	Docket No. 170

On February 1, 1968, the Union Taxi Owners Cooperative Association, Inc., filed a petition seeking increases in the rates of charges, and changes in regulations relating thereto, for the interstate transportation of persons in its member taxicabs, domiciled in the District of Columbia.

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Basically, the petition seeks the following increases:  
10¢, or a charge of 60¢, for the first mile; 5¢, or a charge of 25¢, for each additional 1/2 mile; 40¢, or a charge of 60¢, for each additional passenger; \$2.00, or a charge of \$6.00, per hour waiting time computed at 10¢ per minute; 25¢, or a charge of 50¢, for radio dispatched trips; and the institution of a \$1.10 minimum fare.

The petition also sought an effective date of March 1, 1968, for the fare increase proposals. Contained in the petition are detailed grounds of justification for the changes in fares and regulations.

The petitioners are a segment of a large number of companies, associations, and individuals engaged in rendering a general taxicab transportation service both within the District of Columbia and between the District of Columbia and the suburban areas of the Signatories adjacent to the District of Columbia. Therefore, the approval of all or a portion of the increases in rates for only the petitioners would establish a dual fare structure for taxicab service by taxicabs domiciled in the District of Columbia. Accordingly, it appears to the Commission that any change in fares must embrace the entire taxicab industry domiciled in the District

of Columbia. Therefore, we are herein ordering an investigation into the propriety and reasonableness of the existing interstate fare structure of the taxicabs domiciled in the District of Columbia and a consideration as to whether the proposed fares should be prescribed by the Commission for service rendered in those taxicabs. The request sought by petitioners shall not only be incorporated into the investigation, but shall serve as the foundation of our consideration of any fare increase prescription.

The March 1, 1968, proposed effective date for the requested fares is not approved. No change of fare will be considered until a final order is entered.

**THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:**

1. That an investigation be made of the existing and proposed rates of charges and regulations for interstate taxicab service rendered by taxicabs domiciled in the District of Columbia.
2. That the Union Taxi Owners Cooperative Association, Inc., be, and it is hereby, made a respondent to this proceeding; pursuant to Section 19 of the Compact, the respondent is assessed the sum of \$150.00, payable to the Commission on or before March 15, 1968.
3. That any person engaged in performing a taxicab service licensed and domiciled in the District of Columbia may become a party respondent to this proceeding; provided, that such person shall notify the Commission in writing on or before Friday, March 15, 1968, that he desires to become a formal party respondent. Such notification shall also be accompanied by a check in the amount of Five Dollars (\$5.00), payable to the order of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Commission.
4. That this matter be, and it is hereby, set for hearing on Monday, April 1, 1968, at 10:00 A.M., in the Commission's Hearing Room, Ninth Floor, 1815 North Fort Myer Drive, Arlington, Virginia.

5. That any person, other than a member of the taxicab industry, having an interest in this matter who desires to be heard shall notify the Commission in writing on or before Friday, March 15, 1968.

6. That all testimony, other than that relating to detailed economic and accounting matters, shall be presented to the Commission in writing on or before Friday, March 15, 1968. The written statement may be supplemented by an oral statement limited to no more than 10 minutes.

7. That respondent publish notice of the proposed fares and of the ordering paragraphs of this order in a newspaper of general circulation in the Metropolitan District, once, on or before March 5, 1968.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION:

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*Melvin E. Lewis*

MELVIN E. LEWIS  
Executive Director